

SHOCK WAVES

THE WORLD REACTS WITH DISBELIEF AS
'BLADE RUNNER' AND OLYMPIC STAR OSCAR PISTORIUS
IS CHARGED IN THE SHOOTING OF HIS GIRLFRIEND

PAGES 4 & 21

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London economy steady as she grows: Report

Recovery. Region rebounding from recession, though growth rate lags behind others



ANGELA MULLINS
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The local economy is on the rebound — even if the upswing is doggedly slow, the Conference Board of Canada says.

Manufacturing, transportation and wholesale were among the sectors that saw employment bumps in 2012, while a few areas, such as construction, posted dips, according to a Conference Board report.

Gross domestic product — the value of goods and services — for the region grew by 1.2 per cent last year, up from one per cent growth in 2011. Gains will continue through 2017, with the GDP expected to grow 1.9 per cent this year, the report says. Growth for the period will

peak at 2.2 per cent in 2014.

It's nowhere near the pre-recession growth rate of 2.5 per cent a year for the two decades before 2008-09. Getting there will take some time, said Peter White, president and CEO of the London Economic Development Corp.

"I think this is part of the shift that's happened in the economy here. You can't automatically assume we'll be able to do what we did pre-recession," he said. "I think what we're going to see is it's going

to be a slow buildup. We're not going to get the huge gains like between 2005-08."

Growth in other parts of southwest Ontario is outpacing that of the London area, the report says. Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge saw GDP grow 3.9 per cent in 2012 — the third-biggest jump of areas covered in the report — and growth of 2.7 per cent is expected this year.

Ontario's GDP grew by 1.8 per cent in 2012 with a 2.1 per cent jump expected this year.

On the job front

- Employment in the London area rose by 2.8 per cent last year, the biggest gain in eight years, the Conference Board of Canada says, though a small dip is

forecast for this year.

- Still, the unemployment rate is expected to trickle down to 8.1 per cent this year. It was 8.4 per cent last year.

Manufacturing was the biggest success story locally. Despite "many roadblocks and speed bumps" on the road to

recovery, sector output rose by about four per cent last year, with a 2.8 increase forecast in 2013, the report says.



HELLO, MR. PRESIDENT

Western student Patrick Whelan, second from left, celebrates his presidential victory on Thursday in the university's student-council election. Whelan, a fourth-year student in computer science and management and organizational studies, and his running mates beat two teams of candidates to earn the top seats in student government. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Have fun on Family Day

Metro will not be publishing on Monday, Feb. 18. Look for us again on Tuesday

The race is on!

Candidates are lining up to take over for London West MPP Chris Bentley, who resigned this week [PAGE 2](#)

Rick Mercer cracks up

The eggs, that is. After a road trip eating bad food, while filming The Rick Mercer Report, the ranting funny-man turns to his favourite dish



[PAGE 15](#)



Former London West MPP Chris Bentley is pictured in his London office. Bentley officially left his seat, which he's held since 2003, on Thursday. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

'Big shoes,' big dreams

It's on! The race for MPP London West is heating up already



ANGELA MULLINS
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Campaign signs might not be staked in lawns. But make no mistake: The race to fill former MPP Chris Bentley's vacant London West seat is on.

There's a chance the ballot could look something like it did in 2011 — with Ali Chahbar already claiming the Progressive Conservative nomination and candidates for other parties mulling a return.

Chahbar took second place to Bentley, a Liberal, in the last general election.

"We've already gone out and started knocking on doors, speaking with people," Chahbar said. "This is only the beginning. Undoubtedly,

it's going to heat up before we know it."

London West NDP candidate Jeff Buchanan, who came in third two years ago, has shown interest in giving it another go, a party official said. Gary Brown, who represented the Green Party in the last race, said he's ready to throw his name in the hat.

As for the Liberals?

They're keeping things under wraps for now, but have been feeling out candidates since Bentley's fall announcement that he wouldn't seek reelection. Things sped up Feb. 8, when Bentley said he would step aside Feb. 14.

He's held the seat, one of the area's last Liberal strongholds, since 2003.

"Based on the people we've been speaking to, we're pretty confident we're going to get a candidate of (Bentley's) calibre," said Scott Courtice, the Liberals' London West riding association president. "They are big shoes, but I know

we've got a crew of (potential candidates) that will be able to fill them."

How quickly things play out depends largely on what happens at Queen's Park in the next several weeks.

Premier Kathleen Wynne has until August to schedule a byelection in the riding. Everyone, Liberals included, expect she'll wait to see how things go with the budget next month before making the call.

If the budget doesn't get support in the Liberals' minority government, it could launch a general election.

Either way, officials with all parties say they're ready — and itching — to get going.

"We've got a very seasoned team of people who are able to work really hard on the ground," Courtice said. "I'm confident we won't miss a beat."

Follow Angela Mullins on
Twitter @MetroAngela

Mayor Bentley? No thanks

As he prepared to leave his London constituency for the last time Thursday, former MPP Chris Bentley said he's only ruled out one job for the future: Mayor.

The former labour minister, energy minister and attorney general said he has no interest in the city's top political seat, and no clear plans for the future.

There's always been one thing that guides his decisions, something that won't change now that he's out of the spotlight, Bentley said.

"I want to make a difference," he said. "Wherever I go, I'll be looking to make a difference."

London employment

Local job fair hits record attendance

It was a record turnout for the Employment Ontario Job Fair at the Western Fair District on Wednesday. More than 3,500 people visited the fair, where 50 employers had exhibits with an estimated more than 3,000 positions looking to be filled over the next six months. **METRO**

More than \$10K over

LHSC exceeds goal

London Health Sciences Centre has topped its fundraising goal for the annual United Way Campaign, raising \$140,717, it was announced Thursday. **METRO**

Tourism London

Deb Harvey named new head

Tourism London has elected Deb Harvey, executive director of The Grand Theatre, as its president. **METRO**

Musical instruments

Banting gets grant

Sir Frederick Banting Secondary School has received a \$10,000 grant from the national Band Aid musical instrument program. The money will be used to buy new woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments, Banting principal Paula Greenberg said. **METRO**

Influenza takes a break

No new flu cases: Health unit

Between Feb. 5 and Monday, no new laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza were reported by the Middlesex-London Health Unit. **METRO**

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Harper criticized for telling victims to 'get on' and report abuse

RCMP officers accused.

Human-rights group says prime minister is missing fear of reprisal

The human-rights watchdog that documented allegations of police abuse against aboriginal women in British Columbia is taking Prime Minister Stephen Harper to task for telling victims to just "get on" with reporting abuse.

Samer Muscati, a Canadian researcher who was involved in compiling the report released Wednesday, said Harper missed the whole point — that aboriginal women and girls are often too traumatized to co-operate with police.

"Those comments ignore the fear of reprisal those victims have," Muscati told The Canadian Press in an interview Thursday.

The report, from a New York group called Human Rights Watch, accuses RCMP

Controversial comments

"If Human Rights Watch ... is aware of serious allegations involving criminal activity, they should give that information to the appropriate police so they can investigate it ... Just get on and do it."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, to the House of Commons on Wednesday in reference to allegations that RCMP officers have abused aboriginal women and girls in British Columbia.

officers of abusing aboriginal women and girls in northern B.C., and also includes an allegation of rape.

The alleged incidents were uncovered as part of a broader investigation into charges of systemic neglect of missing and murdered aboriginal women along B.C.'s Highway 16, nicknamed the "Highway of Tears."

Harper said the government has asked the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP to look into the allegations but he urged those connected with the report to simply come forward.

Muscatti said Human Rights Watch tried to brief Harper and three cabinet

members in advance of the report's release, but they were rebuffed.

Muscatti said the group has no intention of sharing the information it has about the abuse allegations, as Harper urged them to do.

"We have to stand by the victims who have asked us not to identify them because they're terrified of police retaliation," he said.

"It's missing the point of the report. If he met with us and reviewed the report, he would know that's an unrealistic request given that our report is about fear and insecurity that plague aboriginal women and girls."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



For the missing, murdered and marginalized

People take part in the March For Missing and Murdered Women on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on Thursday.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paralympic runner charged in murder of his girlfriend

Paralympic superstar Oscar Pistorius was charged Thursday with the murder of his girlfriend, who was shot inside his home in South Africa, a stunning development in the life of a national hero known as the Blade Runner for his high-tech artificial legs.

Reeva Steenkamp, a model who spoke out on Twitter against rape and abuse of women, was shot four times before dawn in the house in a gated community in the capital, Pretoria, police said.

Pistorius' court hearing was originally scheduled for Thursday afternoon but has been postponed until Friday to give forensic investigators time to carry out their work, said Medupe Simasiku, a spokesman for the prosecution.

South Africans were shocked at the killing. But while Pistorius captured the nation's attention with his Olympic quest, police said



Oscar Pistorius
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



Reeva Steenkamp
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

there was a recent history of problems involving him. Police spokeswoman Brigadier Denise Beukes said the incidents were "of a domestic nature."

In February 2009, he crashed a speed boat, with witnesses saying he had been drinking. In November, Pistorius was in an altercation with a

coal-mining millionaire over a woman, local media reported.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reaction

For more on the Paralympic community's response, see pg. 21.

Refugee claims

Mexico added to 'safe' country list

Mexico, a country awash in drug-related violence, is no longer considered by Canada to be a major source of genuine refugees.

It was among eight "safe" countries added Thursday to a controversial list now used by immigration to fast-track claims.

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney has said the changes will help cut through fraudulent claims clogging the system.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lost data. Bureaucrats 'sorry' for privacy breach

We're sorry and we're trying to ensure it never happens again.

That was the message Thursday from senior federal bureaucrats responsible for the loss of personal information belonging to more than half a million Canadians.

Employees at Human Resources and Skills Development Canada lost an external hard drive and USB key in November, resulting in a massive privacy breach.

"Sensitive personal information was stored on unencrypted

portable storage devices and not properly secured." This should not have occurred," said Ian Shugart, a deputy minister with the department. "I apologize for these incidents."

A trio of bureaucrats from the department appeared before a House of Commons committee Thursday to give their account of the events.

MPs wondered why, in the case of the hard drive, it took two months for a formal investigation to be launched.

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Merger gives birth to U.S. mega-airline

\$11B deal. New carrier formed by US Airways, American Airlines will carry more passengers than any other in world

American Airlines and US Airways agreed Thursday to merge in an \$11-billion deal that would create the world's biggest airline.

The combined carrier will be called American Airlines and be based in Fort Worth, Texas. It expects to have \$40 billion in annual revenue and offer more than 6,700 daily flights to 336 destinations in 56 countries.

The deal is a coup for smaller US Airways Group Inc., and was driven by the persistence of its CEO, Doug Parker, who will run the combined airline. Parker sought a merger almost as soon as American parent AMR Corp. filed for bankruptcy protection in November 2011.

As Parker pushed ahead, creditors forced AMR's management to consider the value of a merger compared with a plan



American Airlines and US Airways jets park at the Philadelphia International Airport on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

for an independent American. Eventually they concluded that the best return for stakeholders, and the best chance to compete with bigger rivals United Airlines and Delta Air Lines, came from a merger.

The deal also caps a turbulent half-decade of bankruptcies and consolidation for the U.S. airline industry.

Since 2008, Delta gobbled

Delayed effect

- Travellers on American and US Airways won't notice immediate changes as a result of the merger. It likely will be months before the frequent-flyer programs are combined and years before the two airlines are fully integrated.

up Northwest, United absorbed Continental and Southwest bought AirTran Airways. If this latest merger goes through, American, United, Delta and Southwest will control about three-quarters of U.S. airline traffic.

The merger, expected to close in this year's third quarter, will reduce the number of major U.S. airlines to four: the new American, United, Delta and Southwest. That concerns some consumer advocates, but Parker sought to assure travellers that the merger helps them too — by creating a bigger rival to United and Delta.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Buffett will have some ketchup on the side

Billionaire Warren Buffett is dipping into the ketchup business as part of a \$23.3-billion deal to buy H.J. Heinz Co., uniting a legend of American investing with a mainstay of grocery store shelves. It's the largest deal ever in the food industry and is intended to help Heinz accelerate its transformation into a global business. The company, based in Pittsburgh, also makes Classico pasta sauces, Ore-Ida potatoes and Smart Ones frozen meals. Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway is partnering on the deal with 3G Capital, the investment firm that bought Burger King in 2010. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

New cars must have shoulder belts for rear centre seats, Ottawa says

All new cars built in Canada as of September 2015 will come equipped with shoulder safety belts for the rear centre seat, a change that's part of an alignment of auto safety regulations in Canada and the U.S.

New crash test standards are also being adopted that

could both improve automotive safety and save car makers millions of dollars, Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq said Thursday as she took part in announcing the changes.

On top of adding a mandatory requirement for lap and

shoulder seat belts in the rear centre seat, car makers will have to use female and child-sized dummies in their crash tests, says Transport Canada. Those tests must also be conducted at higher speeds for front-end crashes.

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Parting ways

Balsillie has sold BlackBerry shares, filing shows

Jim Balsillie once re-mortgaged his house to help build the BlackBerry company, but by the end of last year, the former co-CEO had cleaned out any shareholder stake he still owned.

A document filed with U.S. regulators shows that by Dec. 31 of last year he no longer held shares in the company formerly known as Research In Motion.

In January 2012, Balsillie resigned from the co-CEO position, alongside co-founder Mike Lazaridis. They took director roles, but Balsillie completely exited the firm hardly two months later.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
99.88¢ (+0.06¢)

TSX
12,721.79 (-53.49)

OIL
\$97.31 US (+30¢)

GOLD
\$1,635.50 US (-\$9.60)

Natural gas: \$3.17 US (-14¢)
Dow Jones: 13,973.39 (-9.52)

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SORRY KARDASHIANS, YOU AIN'T NO MOON GODDESSES



THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

1 Un, deux, trois. U.S. President Barack Obama reacted to North Korea's nuclear test Tuesday by promising firm action on what he views as Kim Jong-un's "highly provocative

act." The prez claims the move blatantly threatens U.S. security and international peace. After all, America already has all the nuclear weapons the world will ever need.

2 **Missionary position.** We bid farewell to Pope Benedict XVI, a sports fan obviously named after Super Bowl XVI when the 49ers defeated the Bengals. This week, the papal 'Giant' gathered the 'Cardinals,' some of whom might be 'Saints,' and ask the 'Angels' to decide which 'Patriots' cup will runeth over. Vatican spokesman, Father 'Lombardi' says that Benedict is keeping the 'book' close, but that he has spent the last eight years assembling a team of veterans, still young enough to compete, that he believes can go all the way. So there.

3 **Games people play.** Jacques Rogge, president of the International Olympic Committee, has agreed to discuss the decision to drop wrestling from the Games, but let's face it, who cares? I mean, we're not talking about a REAL sport like table tennis or synchronized swimming.

4 **Fortunate sons.** Wonton Food Inc., largest U.S. producer of fortune cookies, has ceased printing intimate messages like: "the evening promises romantic interest," because some parents complained they were inappropriate for their children. OK folks, if this offends you, my first suggestion is: don't have kids. And if you choose to disregard this wisdom, well, good luck with school, the Internet, HBO, or raising a child in general.

5 **Space marketing.** The SETI Institute and International Astronomical Union (IAU) started a public poll to name the recently discovered moons orbiting Pluto. The guidelines strictly specify names of underworld characters in Greek or Roman mythology, which disqualifies my entries of Kim and Khloe, Snooki and JWoww, and Tito and Jermaine, but many of the names from Harry Potter films still apply.

6 **Alternate reality TV.** I dreamed I was at a party full of good-looking, talented, rich hobbyists who regularly have outrageous sex with extraordinarily attractive people. One would intermittently raise a glass to praise the other publicly for the value of their recreational output. I found myself looking in while the distance between us grew and panic set in just as I awoke, relieved that I hadn't missed the Grammys.

7 **Capital duplicity.** Notorious infidelity website Ashley Madison released its list of Canadian cities with the most cheating spouses. The hands-down winner was Ottawa, where about one out of every 20 residents are members. This sparked an outcry among citizens who were devastated to discover there is such dishonesty in our nation's capital.

8 **Hear me roar.** This week in 1975, at the height of women's lib, Linda Ronstadt had her first and only solo #1 U.S. hit with You're No Good. Ladies throughout America expressed solidarity as they enthusiastically sang the chorus to their men before defiantly leaving them. Just in time for Valentine's Day.



Kim, Kourtney and Khloe Kardashian can't keep up with Pluto's new moon name requirements, recent reports suggest. CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

British army deploys the toy



SWNS.COM

Warfare technology

Spy chopper fits in palm of your hand

It looks like a toy helicopter but one commander has called it "a game-changing piece of kit" in modern warfare.

This pocket-sized aircraft, Black Hornet Nano, has been unveiled as the British army's latest weapon against the Taliban. The surveillance drone has three cameras fitted inside its nose to allow troops to spy on enemies from afar.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Army's viewpoint

"Previously, we'd have sent soldiers forward to see if there were any enemy fighters hiding inside a set of buildings. Now we're deploying a Black Hornet to look inside compounds. It's so small and quiet that the locals can't see or hear it."

Maj. Adam Foden, commander of the Brigade Reconnaissance Force at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan

War casualties

Drones have killed children: UN

Drones are now a mainstay for the military but they are not without controversy.

U.S. attacks by manned and unmanned aircraft have killed "hundreds" of children in Afghanistan, according to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The UN body said casualties were "due notably to reported lack of precautionary measures."

METRO WORLD NEWS

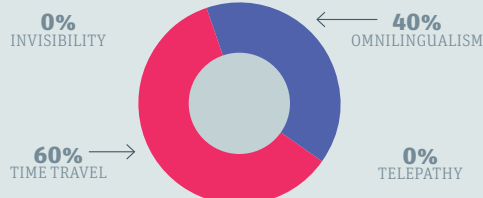


The drone relays video and still images to a handheld control terminal. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



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If you could have one superpower, which would it be?



Twitter

@jaewall: What is UP with these post apocalyptic dreams I have on the regular #hopeimnotpsychic

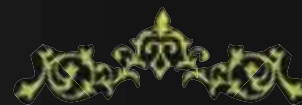
@apklondon: Happy Valentines Day lovers! Don't have a date? Take out a page from Leslie Knope's book and celebrate Galentines Day. #treatyoself

@livelifeinneon: Nothing says valentines day like shop lifters and old people buying flowers that are on sale.

@Onespot_Allergy: Where can I buy a fresh not frozen #dairyfree cake in #ldnont? It's needs to be free of all traces of dairy due to food allergies.

@joshumewood: Fire Roasted Coffee Co opening across from the market ... great news for coffee lovers in #LdnOnt!

@ReidHenseng5: Accepted o fitness and health promotion #fanshawe



SAZERAC

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1 sugar cube
5 dashes Peychaud's bitters
2 oz bourbon or whisky
¼ oz Lucid Absinthe Supérieure
Lemon twist for garnish

Add ice to a rocks glass and let chill. In another rocks glass add 1 sugar cube and soak with Peychaud's bitters. Muddle sugar cube until granules dissolve with bitters, add bourbon, add ice and stir. Discard the ice in the other rocks glass and add Absinthe. Swirl Absinthe around the inside of the glass then discard. Strain in the bourbon-bitters mixture and serve neat. Garnish with a lemon twist.



GEORGIA MINT JULEP

It's Divine, I Do Declare!

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½ oz peach schnapps, divided
1½ oz Devil's Cut Bourbon
Mint sprig for garnish

Place the mint and ¼ ounce of the peach schnapps in a Julep cup or Old-Fashioned glass and muddle gently, working the leaves up the side of the glass. Fill the glass with ice, then add bourbon and drizzle remaining peach schnapps on top. Garnish with a mint sprig.



Southern Cocktails on now at the LCBO.





Sarah Polley's *Stories We Tell* is just one of the more recent great made-in-Canada films. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD
CROUSE AND
MARK BRESLIN



Films of the true North strong and free

Celebrating the maple leaf. The Reel Guys take a look at their fave movies made by Canucks on National Flag of Canada Day

Richard: Mark, Canada has a rich tradition of documentary film making, so I thought I'd start with one of my recent favourite Can Con films, a doc by Sarah Polley. *Stories We Tell* is a frank look at a family secret. For years Sarah's family wondered why she didn't look like her father, actor Michael Polley. In the film she examines the story of her parentage, but what could have been a self-indulgent home movie is, instead, a riveting look into the dynamics of a group of in-

dividuals bound together by birth and circumstance. What's grabbed you lately?

Mark: As it turns out, she doesn't look much like her actual father, either! Yes, it's a good movie, although the last 20 minutes seemed too abstract for the rest of the film. I don't think you can talk about Canadian film without talking about French-Canadian film. I'm especially thinking of the great Denys Arcand, whose films play like a Quebecois version of Woody Allen's neurotic New Yorkers, and some of the coming-of-age-themed movies like *C.R.A.Z.Y.* and *Léolo*, which I think is a masterpiece.

RC: Masterpiece is a big word — literally, it's 11 letters! But it's also applicable in the case of the movies you mentioned. While we're waving that flag

I'd also add in *Hard Core Logo*, Bruce McDonald's long hard look at a punk band's life and death on the road. It's one of the best-loved Canadian films of all time and an all-time favourite of mine, regardless of origin. Less known, but also worthwhile, is the sequel *HCL2*, an eye-popping followup that captures the spirit of the first film but is also fresh and surprising.

MB: There are hidden gems throughout our cinematic history. One of my favourites, Richard? *A Fan's Notes*, from 1972. Based on the Frederick Exley book of the same name, it's a dark comedy about a middle-aged guy who realizes he will always be a fan, but never a player, in everything he does.

RC: A few years after *A Fan's Notes* I saw *The Silent Partner*,

Synopsis

The most romantic day of the year has come and gone, and while the rest of you are finishing off heart-shaped boxes of chocolates, the Reel Guys are celebrating National Flag of Canada Day by rounding up some of the best Canadian films.

a heist movie about a mall Santa with plans to rob a bank. It's an entertaining movie with two lasting images: the newly built Toronto Eaton Centre and Christopher Plummer in drag!

MB: And if you watch *Goin' Down The Road* from 1970, the Royal York Hotel is the tallest building on the Toronto skyline!

LONDON

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¼ oz grenadine
½ oz freshly squeezed
lemon juice
Soda water
Lemon wheel for garnish

Add schnapps, grenadine and
lemon juice to a collins or high-
ball glass filled with ice and stir.
Top with soda and stir again to
mix. Garnish with a lemon wheel.



GEORGIA PEACH

Fall in Love With a Southern Belle

1½ oz Absolut Vodka
½ oz peach schnapps
Splash of freshly squeezed
orange juice
Orange peel for garnish

Pour all ingredients into a shaker
filled with ice and shake until very
cold. Strain into a cocktail glass,
and garnish with an orange peel.



Southern Cocktails on now at the LCBO.



The 63rd Annual Berlinale, Germany's frosty answer to the Cannes Film Festival, is currently taking place. Here's some of the can't-miss entries

NED EHRBAR

Metro World News in Hollywood

Side Effects

A week after its release in the U.S., Steven Soderbergh brings his "last" film to Berlin — he's threatening retirement after this and his HBO film *Behind the Candelabra*. If this is it, he's going out on a high note.

The Necessary Death of Charlie Countryman

Frederik Bond's bizarre dystopian romance starring Shia LaBeouf and Evan Rachel Wood have the critics saying things about the over-the-top content of the film.

Yi Dai Zong Shi (The Grandmaster)

While it's not a part of the competition, Wong Kar-wai's attention-grabbing martial arts masterpiece has been selected as the festival's opening night film. It's a historical epic about the origins of kung fu.

Night Train to Lisbon

Based on Pascal Mercier's high-minded 2004 novel, Oscar-winner Billie August's film finds Jeremy Irons as a Swiss professor abandoning his post to investigate the life of a deceased Portuguese doctor.

Dark Blood

Also screening out of competition, this title is likely the most anticipated, as director George Sluizer has finally "completed" his 1993 film, left unfinished when star River Phoenix died of a drug overdose.

Brief

Phoenix's last film to screen

The late River Phoenix's last movie, *Dark Blood*, has received a rare screening at the Berlin film festival. But its director says the picture may never go out for general release. George Sluizer told reporters negotiations with the financial company that owns the movie are "tough." Phoenix died of a drug overdose in October 1993.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metro News, Just For Laughs and Jeremy Hotz Want to Get you Out of Your Misery!

Jeremy Hotz

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A TRIP FOR TWO TO
JUST FOR LAUGHS
BERMUDA 2014!

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- 1) Win a pair of front row tickets to Jeremy Hotz's Magical Misery Tour show at Centennial Hall on March 1!
- 2) Grand prize: a trip for two to Just For Laughs Bermuda in January 2014, including flights, a 3-night stay at the Fairmont Southampton Bermuda and tickets to Just For Laughs Bermuda!



March 1
7:30 PM
Centennial Hall



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The Fairmont
SOUTHAMPTON
BERMUDA

HAHAHA.COM/CONCERTS

London portion of contest closes February 19, 2013. Open to Canadian residents 21 years or older. No purchase necessary. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries. Go to www.clubmetro.com to enter and fill out entry form, including skill-testing question. There is one (1) prize of a pair of front row tickets to the Jeremy Hotz Magical Misery Tour show in London, presented by Just For Laughs. Winner in London will be pooled with similar winners in Halifax, Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary and Vancouver for the Grand Prize draw. There is one (1) Grand Prize of a trip for two to Just For Laughs Bermuda in January 2014, which includes return airfare, three nights of hotel accommodation at The Fairmont Southampton Bermuda and tickets to Just For Laughs Bermuda, valued at approximately \$3,500 CAD (based upon departure from Halifax, actual value may vary depending upon time and city of departure). Certain restrictions may apply. For full contest rules, go to www.clubmetro.com.

Drama



Amour

Director. Michael Haneke

Stars. Jean-Louis Trintignant, Emmanuelle Riva

The very definition of a small movie tackling a big subject, *Amour* takes a brutally hard look at aging. Retired music teachers Georges and Anne have their life thrown into flux after a medical condition leaves Anne incapacitated. Devoted to his wife, Georges refuses to check Anne into a home, opting instead to care of her himself. True to its director's reputation for creating bleak tableaux, *Amour* is neither precious nor judgmental of Georges' decisions; rather Haneke lets his characters suffer the consequences of their decisions in a heart-wrenching film. IAN GORMEY

Historical Drama



A Royal Affair

Director. Nikolaj Arcel

Stars. Mads Mikkelsen, Alicia Vikander

Sumptuously designed and as thrilling as any contemporary Hollywood film, the Danish *A Royal Affair* — nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Film — is superlative filmmaking. In it, Mads Mikkelsen stars as Struensee, an enlightened country doctor circa late-1700s Denmark who is enlisted to be the soft-headed boy-king Christian IV's personal physician. Soon, Struensee is changing the church-run system from within, becoming a father figure to the king while engaging in a passionate affair with the lonely queen.

CHRIS ALEXANDER



THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB.15 TO THURS., FEB. 21. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.



Identity Thief. HANDOUT

London

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharnclyffe Road South, 519-913-0313

Amour (14A) Fri 2:25-7:10 Sat 12:30-7:10 Sun 12:30-5:15 Mon-Tue 4:50-9:30 Wed 12:30-7:10 Thu 2:25-9:05
Barbara (PG) Fri 12:30 Sat 2:50 Sun 7:35 Mon 12:30 Tue-Wed 2:50 Thu 12:30-7:10
A Royal Affair (STC) Fri-Sat 4:45-9:30 Sun 2:50-9:30 Mon-Tue 2:25-7:10 Wed 4:45-9:30 Thu 4:45

Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

Beautiful Creatures (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:55-6:50-9:35
Escape From Planet Earth (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:35-7:10-9:15
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-7:25
Identity Thief (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:30-7:20-9:40
Safe Haven (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:25-6:55-9:25
Side Effects (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:55-7:15-9:45
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:45-9:35
Warm Bodies (PG) Fri-Thu 7:05

Western Film Room 340, UCC Building,

Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Mon 9:10
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Mon 2-4:30-7
Wellington 8 Cinemas
983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529
Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Fri 6:40-9:40 No Passes Sat-Mon 12:40-3:35-6:40-9:40 No Passes Tue-Thu 5:15-8:10
Escape From Planet Earth (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Mon 1:10-6:50 Tue-Thu 5:30
Escape From Planet Earth 3D (PG) Fri 9:25 Sat-Mon 3:45-9:25 Tue-Thu 7:50
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:45 No Passes Sat-Mon 1:30-4:20-7:10-9:45 No Passes Tue-Thu 5:40-8:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Mon 4-7:30 Tue-Thu 7:30
Identity Thief (14A) Fri 6:45-9:30 Sat-Mon 12:50-3:40-6:45-9:30 Tue-Thu 5-7:45
Safe Haven (PG) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Mon 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 Tue-Thu 5:25-8:20
Side Effects (14A) Fri 7:20-10 Sat-Mon 12:45-4:15-7:20-10 Tue-Thu 5:20-8
Warm Bodies (PG) Fri 6:30-9:15

Sat-Mon 1-3:50-6:30-9:15 Tue-Thu 5:10-7:40

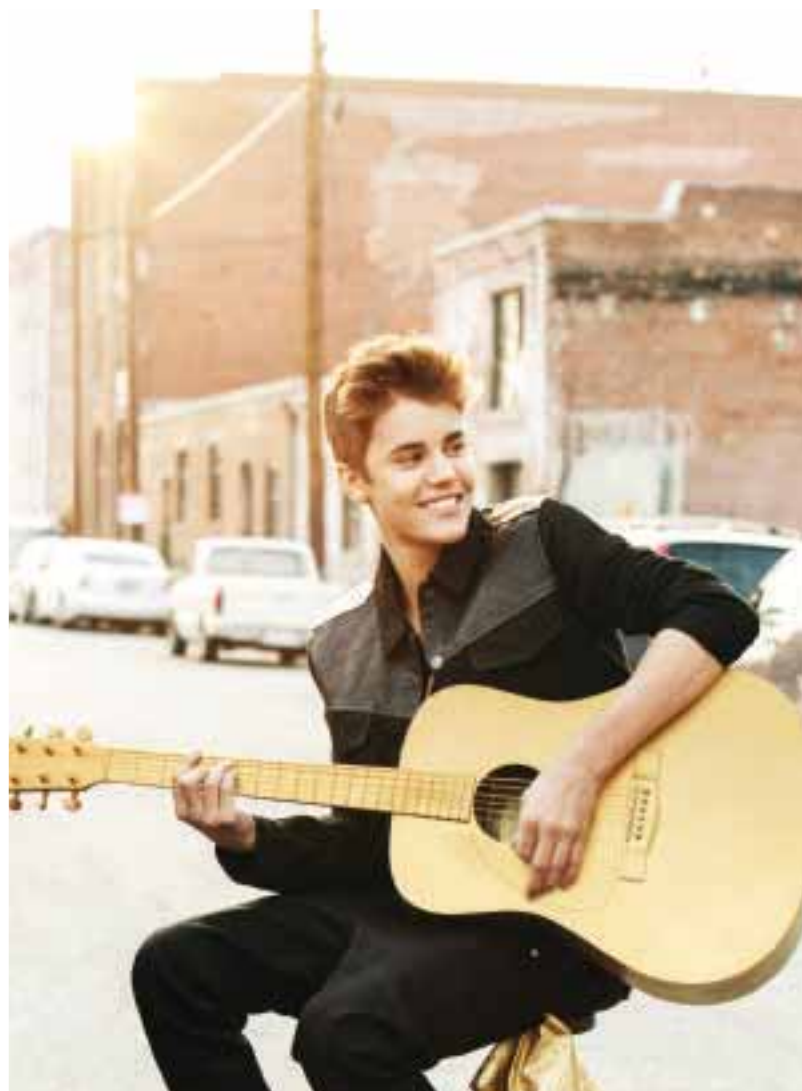
Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas 755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Fri 3:40-7-10 No Passes Sat 3:35-5:15-7:20-10:15 No Passes Sun 1:10-4:05-7-10 No Passes Mon 1:05-4:05-7-10 No Passes Tue 3:40-7-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:45-9:40
Escape From Planet Earth 3D (PG) Fri 4:50-7:10-9:35 Sat 12-2:15-4:40-7:10-9:35 Sun-Mon 12:30-2:50-5:15-7:40-10:05 Tue 4:50-7:10-9:35 Wed 1:30-7-9:15 Thu 7-9:15
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Fri 5:15-7:50-10:30 No Passes Sat 11:55-2:50-5:20-7:55-10:40 No Passes Sun-Mon 12:35-2:55-5:20-7:50-10:30 No Passes Tue 5:15-7:50-10:30 No Passes Wed 1:15-7:20-9:50 No Passes Thu 7:20-9:50 No Passes Fri 4:15-7:30-10:15 No Passes Sat 1:30-5:05-7:30-10:15 No Passes Sun-Mon 2-4:15-7:30-10:15 No Passes Tue 4:15-7:30-10:15 No Passes Wed 8:15
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (14A) Fri 5:30-8-10:35 Sat 4:55-8:05-10:45 Sun-Mon 3:15-5:35-8-10:35 Tue 5:30-8-10:35 Wed-Thu 7:30-10
Identity Thief (14A) Fri 4:40-7:30-10:20 Sat 12:10-2:15-4:50-7:40-10:30 Sun-Mon 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 Tue 4:40-7:30-10:20 Wed 1:25-7:05-9:55 Thu 7:05-9:55 Fri 3:50-7-9:45 Sat 3:45-7-9:45 Sun-Mon 1:30-3:45-7-9:45 Tue 3:50-7-9:45 Wed 7:45 Thu 8:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Metropolitan Opera: Rigoletto Live (STC) Sat 12:55 Sat 12:55
Move to Move - Netherlands Dance (STC) Sun 12:55
Quartet (PG) Fri 4-6:40-9:15 Sat 12:15-2:40-6:40-9:15 Sun-Mon 12:45-1:25-4-6:40-9:15 Tue 4-6:40-9:15 Wed 1:20-6:40-9:10 Thu 6:40-9:10
Safe Haven (PG) Fri 4:30-7:20-10:10 Sat 12:30-1:40-4:30-7:30-10:20 Sun 1-4:30-7:20-10:10 Mon 1:35-4:30-7:20-10:10 Tue 4:30-7:20-10:10 Wed 1:30-6:55-9:45 Thu 6:55-9:45 Fri 4:45-6:30-9:15 Sat 12:30-4:15-6:30-9:15 Sun-Mon 1-4:45-6:30-9:15 Tue 4:45-6:30-9:15 Wed 7:15 Thu 8 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 3:50-6:50-9:50 Sat 12:45-3:50-6:50-9:50 Sun 3:50-6:50-9:50 Mon 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:50 Tue 3:50-6:50-9:50 Wed 1:10-6:30-9:25 Thu 6:30-9:25

SilverCity London 1680 Richmond St,

519-673-4125

The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland (G) Sat 11
Beautiful Creatures (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 1:40-4:45-7:55-10:45 No Passes Sun 1:40-4:45-8:10-10:55 No Passes Mon 12:30-3:45-7-9:55 No Passes Tue 1:40-4:45-7:55-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 1-4:05-7-9:55
Escape From Planet Earth 3D (PG) Fri 12:10-2:30-5-7:25-9:50 Sat 11:05-1:20-3:35-5:50-8:05-10:20 Sun 12:10-2:30-5-7:25-9:50 Mon 12:10-12:35-2:30-5-7:25-9:50 Tue 12:10-2:30-5-7:25-9:50 Wed-Thu 12:45-3:10-5:40-7:55-10:10
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri 12:15-2:50-5:35-8:10-10:50 Sat 5:15-8:10-10:50 Sun 12:15-2:50-5:35-8:10-10:50
Mon 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:25 Tue 12:15-2:50-5:35-8:10-10:50 Wed-Thu 1:35-4:15-7:50-10:25
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:05-2:30-4:55-7:30-10:05 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:10
A Good Day to Die Hard: The IMAX Experience (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (14A) Fri 12:40-3:25-5:40-7:45-10:15 Sat 12:45-3:25-5:40-7:45-10:15 Sun 12:40-3:25-5:40-7:45-10:15 Mon 3:05-5:20-7:45-10:15 Tue 12:40-3:25-5:40-7:45-10:15 Wed-Thu 1:15-3:20-5:25-7:45-10:20
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 12-3:30-7-10:25 Sun 12-3:30-10:25 Mon 12:40-4:15-7:50 Tue 12-3:30-7-10:25 Wed-Thu 1:15-4:50-8:15
Identity Thief (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-8:05-10:40 Mon 12-2:35-5:10-7:40-10:20 Tue 12-2:35-5:10-8:05-10:40 Wed-Thu 12:35-3:05-5:35-8:05-10:35
Life of Pi (PG) Fri 1:30-4:25-7:10-10 Sat 11-1:35-4:25-7:10-10 Sun 12:15-3-5:30-7:10 Mon 1:15-4-7:10-10 Tue 1:30-4:25-7:10-10 Wed-Thu 12:50-4-7:10-10
The Metropolitan Opera: Rigoletto Live (STC) Sat 12:55
Safe Haven (PG) Fri-Sun 11:55-2:40-5:25-8:10-10:55 Mon 12:45-3:55-7:40-10:25 Tue 11:55-2:40-5:25-8:10-10:55 Wed-Thu 1-3:55-7:40-10:25
Side Effects (14A) Fri-Sun 12:20-2:55-5:35-8:15-10:45 Mon 12:20-2:45-5:10-7:35-10 Tue 12:20-2:55-5:35-8:15-10:45 Wed-Thu 1-4:10-7:35-10:05
Warm Bodies (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-2:45-5:20-7:50-10:10 Mon 12:25-2:45-5:05-7:35-10:10 Tue 12:25-2:45-5:20-7:50-10:10 Wed-Thu 1:05-3:20-5:35-7:50-10:15
WWE Elimination Chamber - 2013 (STC) Sun 8



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Metro is inviting one lucky winner to a VIP experience at a Justin Bieber concert. You could win airfare, hotel and concert tickets for two with backstage passes to meet Bieber himself on one of his European Tour stops. All you have to do is:

1. Take a photo of yourself with the "I Believe in Love" ad which appeared on February 14th 2013 in a place you'd like to take Justin on a date. (If you missed the ad you can print it out at www.clubmetro.com/bieber)
2. Upload your photos by visiting www.clubmetro.com/Justin
3. Remember to share the love! Collect votes from your friends to increase your chances of landing the grand prize!

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No purchase necessary. Contest open to residents of Canada and certain other countries worldwide who are thirteen (13) years of age or older. Odds of winning depend on the number and caliber of eligible entries received. One (1) Grand Prize is available to be won, consisting of a trip to see Justin Bieber perform and meet Justin Bieber (approximate retail value of \$5,000 USD). Skill testing question required. Contest closes February 28, 2013 at 12:00AM CET. To enter and for complete contest rules visit www.facebook.com/metroint. Contest sponsors are Metro International S.A. together with its local Metro subsidiaries around the globe. The contest is in no way sponsored by Free Daily News Group Inc. or Pizza Pizza Limited. Neither Free Daily News Group Inc. nor Pizza Pizza Limited is responsible for this contest or its prize(s).



Rihanna ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

RiRi losing friends over rekindling with Brown

Rihanna has received her share of criticism for reuniting with Chris Brown, who was arrested for assaulting her in 2009. And it turns out the rekindled romance is even costing her some friendships.

Rihanna and Katy Perry aren't tight anymore because Katy doesn't approve of Rihanna dating Chris Brown," a source tell Us Weekly. Perry and beau John Mayer reportedly steered clear of Rihanna and Brown at the Grammys last weekend.

Hannigan gets restraining order against stalker

How I Met Your Mother star Alyson Hannigan has been granted a temporary restraining order against John Hobbs, a New Hampshire man who has repeatedly threatened the lives of Hannigan, her husband, Alexis Denisof, and their children, according to E! News. Hobbs, who was recently discharged

from a mental hospital, must stay at least 100 yards away from Hannigan and her family and must refrain from posting about them online. "I still can marry you tomorrow. I can kill you tomorrow too," one Facebook posting by Hobbs last month reads. "It doesn't end. Even after death."



Alyson Hannigan

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Is Alexa Ray Joel slowly morphing into Minka Kelly?



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Pictures popped up recently of Alexa Ray Joel, the 27-year-old spawn from the famous union between Uptown Girl Christie Brinkley and Billy Joel, and they are looking a little, well, suspicious. But don't listen to what your head is telling you (and I know your head is screaming, "girlfriend got plastic surgery!"). No, read what Brinkley has to say about her

daughter's changing looks.

The former supermodel went on Anderson Live on Thursday to defend her daughter, saying her transformed appearance isn't from a doctor, but rather she's "blossomed."

"She's stepping out into the world, she's doing things and now (her critics) can't even accept it — it's like, 'Oh she's too beautiful, she bought it all, it's all plastic surgery,'" she said. Brinkley says the only surgery Joel has ever "bought" is "a little tweak of her nose."

The whole thing is totally Freud-worthy (it must be rough to have Christie Brinkley as your mother no matter how cute you are) but since this is a gossip column and not a graduate-level course on psychotherapy, let's just say that if I were Minka Kelly, I'd be slightly disturbed.

Lady Gaga cancels her world tour

It looks like those four postponed shows Lady Gaga announced earlier this week won't offer enough time for her to recover from her hip injury. Instead, the singer has canceled the rest of her Born This Way Ball tour, with refunds available for tickets to the scuttled performances, Live Nation has announced. "After addi-

tional tests this morning to review the severity of the issue, it has been determined that Lady Gaga has a labral tear of the right hip," a statement reads. "She will need surgery to repair the problem, followed by strict down time to recover. This, unfortunately, will force her to cancel the tour so she can heal."



Evan Rachel Wood

Wood furious over leaked ultrasound pic

Evan Rachel Wood went on a Twitter tirade after discovering that the Daily Mail had published a photo of her ultrasound. "Which sick f--- paparazzi hid in the parking lot of my hospital after my ultrasound? I can't stand this," she tweeted. "I

couldn't be more furious right now. I want to cry. My child isn't even born yet." Wood is expecting her first child with husband Jamie Bell. After asking the newspaper in a later tweet to remove the image, the story was taken off its site.

Sheen continues to be Lohan's pocketbook

Charlie Sheen is still looking out for Lindsay Lohan financially, apparently. The "Anger Management" recently offered to cover half the costs of a fancy gown Lohan wore to a charity event last week, stylist Phillip Bloch tells E! News. "Never in a business like

this do you see a celebrity pay for another celebrity," Bloch says. "He's very considerate." Bloch adds the request came from Sheen himself and not from an assistant. Sheen also gifted Lohan with \$100,000 last year to help pay off her bill to the IRS.



Twitter



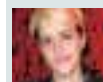
@TheEllenShow

Mila Kunis is a chameleon. You should see what color she turned when I asked her about Ashton Kutcher.



@RealRonHoward

After a biz meeting at Warner's UK studio I had truly cool tour of Harry Potter sets and world



@samantharonson

apparently even if i don't watch a tv show, it still airs.... so i guess we know the answer to the tree falling in the woods question.



@SethMacFarlane

My promise for the Oscars: no cheap wiener jokes. Only expensive wiener jokes.

Liquid Assets

Dynamic duo: Eggs and wine



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Sharing my page with Rick Mercer this week has brought out my inner rant.

It's a rant inspired by the union of booze and the most important meal of the day — breakfast.

Now, I don't mean having a few Jäger bombs with your bagel before hitting the road to work. That's why the Italians invented the skinny cappuccino.

I'm talking weekends, holidays, snow days. Those mornings where your

keys stay in your coat and you can sip and savour a bevy over a plate of home cooked goodness like, say, scrambled eggs.

What makes brunch, lunch and dinner so special when it comes to an adult liquid partner pairing?

I say that breakfast has lived in its shadows for too long, and it's time we

all find an opportunity to break out the stemware in the a.m.

Even with their jiggly-feel, eggs are easy on many wines. Keep things white, unoaked and fruit-forward.

Think wines made with the riesling, sémillon or sauvignon blanc grape.

Kim Crawford 2011 Pinot Gris (\$19.95 to \$22.99) is another good choice.

Rich, textured and tropical, it makes a fine companion for any egg dish — morning, noon or night.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.



Dining on the road with Mercer

Q&A. The Rick Mercer Report star shares his fave meals and places to eat across Canada, as well as a recipe for his go-to dish

DAN CLAPSON
life@metronews.ca

Everyone's favourite Canadian funnyman Rick Mercer doesn't really sit still. His popular show, The Rick Mercer Report, sees him on the road, popping in and out of many of Canada's diverse cities.

I caught up with Rick in between his busy travel schedule to find out what he eats on the road.

What's the best part about being able to travel across Canada regularly?

It's such a big country but I never get tired of it at all. I can't say enough (about) it. I love getting to know a part of the country. I actually do view the entire country as the "town" I live in. I am all over the country all the time and I love it.

Since you travel so much, do you find it hard to eat healthy on the road?

It's extremely difficult, to no fault of the travel, quite frankly. If you're hitting the road at 6 a.m., there are very few op-

tions. There was a decade of those terrible egg sandwiches, which everyone enjoys while they're eating but then regrets immediately after.

What's the staple 'quick meal' for you when you're on the road with your show?

The staple on the road is the Tim Hortons' ham and cheese. I cannot tell you how many ham and cheese sandwiches have been consumed by my team and I while we're on the road. It's shocking how many of those we consume for lunch! At least it's not a burger and fries. You can't do that everyday, otherwise it's over!

If you are stuck in a lay-over, what fast food joint do you succumb to when you're hungry with nothing to eat?

Well, that depends on the airport. I do know every airport in the country! There is no scenario where I am in Montreal's airport and not have a Schwartz's!

One of the best meals you've had was at...

Da Maurizio in Halifax. It's still, to this day, the best Italian I've eaten in this country. Yes, I know those are fighting words!

If you had to pick a Canadian city's airport to live in for a week, which one would it be?

Vancouver has a tremendous airport with great food. I believe the (luggage) carts are free too, which I always admire in an airport. It's just a comfort-



At home, Rick keeps it simple with his favourite food: scrambled eggs. SUBMITTED

Rick's Scrambled Eggs

1. Whisk together the eggs, half and half, black pepper, paprika and salt.
2. Melt the butter in a large pan on medium heat. Once melted, add the egg mixture to the pan and let cook for 2 minutes.
3. Using a spatula or spoon, push egg mixture from the sides of the pan into the centre and let cook for another 2 minutes. Repeat until all of the egg mixture has cooked through.

4. Stir in any grated cheese or optional ingredients and serve.

- 6 large eggs
- 2 tbsp half and half
- 1 tsp ground black pepper
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp butter
- Optional ingredients: Freshly grated Parmesan, chopped tomatoes, sliced scallions, etc.

RECIPE COURTESY OF RICK MERCER



This recipe serves three. ISTOCK

able place. I could live there!

If you are at home, what do you eat?

I'm a big scrambled eggs guy at (home). Also, I think 90 per cent of the eggs you get in a fast food restaurant or while you're

travelling are not particularly very good — probably because they were made the day before or something.

3 FREE

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Book of love. Bible that survived ocean crossing holds a family's history

It was always there: on a table, her counter or carefully laid open on a chair.

The worn black book with a cross in fading gold was one of her most treasured items. In fact, it was her only real possession after having lost everything she owned when she made the long journey from Jamaica to England and, at last, Canada, in the '70s.

Her luggage never made the trip to Canada, lost somewhere on route or perhaps left behind in England. The bible was the one true reminder of where she came from — and that was just fine with my grandma.

Yellowed on some pages, faded on others, in a way it was a representation of her life that began as a bright, ponytail-wearing child in Jamaica who had weathered severe adversity but still had a great story to tell.

It was a book her mother gave her, passed down from her mother before her. It was the only thing that survived her flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

The first words in the book were in the family tree that was found on the first page and hardly legible any more, having been written in pen so many years ago. Her mother, my great grandmother, who was born in 1916, stands as the first entry. Added names throughout the decades in different coloured

ink play out like a trail to the living and preserve memories of family members passed. Family I will never know, but who hold sway in my grandmother's life (how long that life has so far been, my grandma refuses to tell. A lady never tells).

When my grandmother immigrated to Canada, she reasoned moving closer (at least geographically) to Jamaica from England and to a better job was the right decision.

As much as the cold, wet weather made her knee ache sometimes, it was her home, and the place where she'd met my grandfather — a Jamaican expatriate, like herself, looking for better opportunities away from the tiny island where they grew up.

In the end, her life in Canada was better than she would have expected. She worked hard and eventually purchased a modest place to call home and later gave birth to a cherub-faced daughter (my mother) in her adopted country.

She visits Jamaica as much as her health will allow her, but won't likely return for good. If she ever feels homesick she never lets it show, but that could be because her book, with the cross in fading gold and barely legible family tree, is always within arm's reach.

TAKARA SMALL, METRO



Takara Small and her grandmother. PROVIDED

Soaking in serenity on Salt Spring Island

Black history month.

Historic photo evokes the peace found by many black immigrants in British Columbia



EVELYN C. WHITE
For Metro Canada

The stirring 1963 I Have A Dream speech by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. stands as a landmark in the black freedom movement in North America.

But more than a century before King's plea for racial justice, a group of blacks, weary of discrimination, left the U.S. and settled on B.C.'s Salt Spring Island, located in Georgia Strait between Vancouver Island and the Mainland.

Today, direct descendants of the black pioneers still reside in the pastoral landscape also hailed as a vibrant artist colony.

I was thrilled to discover Salt Spring's black history when fate brought me to the island about a decade ago.

The intriguing saga begins with Sir James Douglas (1803-1877) who, in 1858, was appointed the first provincial governor of B.C.

The son of a black woman from Barbados and a Scottish planter, Douglas, in need of skilled workers to meet a gold frenzy in the region, urged a band of blacks in California to move to B.C.

At the time, a federal Fugitive Slave Act that poised them for possible return to bondage threatened free blacks. Dispirited by an increasingly



Salt Spring Island pioneer Jim Anderson poses for a photo on his canoe with one of the Whims children at Walker's Hooke in the early 1930s. JESSE BOND/COURTESY SALT SPRING ARCHIVES

hostile climate, several hundred blacks accepted Douglas' invitation and sailed north to Victoria.

By 1859, a core group of the blacks had built log cabins on nearby Salt Spring Island, the ancestral grounds of the Coast Salish people. There, they hunted cougars, cultivated farms and cleared the deeply forested terrain for future immigrants.

Salt Spring's black pioneers included Jim Anderson, who built the community's first public picnic site on his property. Proficient on the trumpet, he routinely roused neighbours with a brisk blast of Reveille.

For more on black history

- To read the three winning essays in RBC's student competition, go to metronews.ca and click on Black History Month



I was captivated by the image of a nattily dressed Anderson and a black boy in a canoe that appears in my book Every Goodbye Ain't Gone: A Photo Narrative of Black Heritage on Salt Spring Island.

Our African forebears packed like sardines in the

holds of slave ships, many North American blacks have a pained relationship with boats and water. This discomfort has been compounded, over the years by our wounding experiences with segregated beaches, swimming pools and "coloured" drinking fountains.

The serenity that the pair exhibits in the photo marks the peace that has prompted a steady stream of black folk to settle on Salt Spring since the late 1850s.

Inspired by Anderson and the youngster, I braved my long-standing fear of water and learned how to swim during my sojourn on the island.

Stitching together stories of strife and success

Patch of the past. Irreplaceable quilt was born of necessity, but sewn with soul



SHAUNTAY GRANT
For Metro Canada

I'd probably seen my great-grandmother's quilt a dozen times before noticing the teal pocket gently set against a blue and white tweed.

"My sister's coat," my grandmother explained. "And those are old dresses," she added, signaling a colourful border lined with red, pink

and mauve patterns.

"And the yellow?" I wanted to know.

"That was a winter top," she said. "These are all old winter dresses, coats, skirts..."

"And the brown stains?" "Smoke stains. From when the old house burned down — the second time."

And suddenly my great-grandmother's quilt was more than just worn fabric. It was a time capsule. A memory book. A diary full of stories.

The quilt itself is just 65 years young, but the story goes back much further. As far back as the migration of American Black Loyalists and Jamaican Maroons to Nova Scotia in the latter part of the 1700s. And as



Shauntay Grant's great-grandmother's quilt. PROVIDED

far back as the wave of Black Refugees who — like the Loyal-

Wrapped in remembrance

"Of the many winter quilts my great-grandmother would have stitched to warm her children, this single heirloom is all that remains."

Shauntay Grant

ists and Maroons — settled in rural Nova Scotia after the War of 1812. Like her ancestors, my great-grandmother Annie Simmonds (1901-1986) encountered many hardships — set against a backdrop of marginalization and racial segrega-

tion, the people of her community (North Preston, Nova Scotia) were faced with brutal winters, unwanted soils and a lack of basic needs like food, clothing, and adequate shelter. "The houses were very cold back then," remembers my grandmother. "Made of slab boards, tar paper and sealed with cardboard."

My grandmother says these old patch quilts were the best defence against the cold climate. And of the many winter quilts my great-grandmother would have stitched to warm her children, this single heirloom is all that remains.

And it's full of stories.

My grandmother tells me she remembers watching her

mother piece the quilt together, sitting on a kitchen chair near the woodstove, the fabric just spilling from her lap. And she remembers how the cat got lost inside the lining, and how her mother almost stitched the quilt shut not realizing that "Fluffy" was trapped inside.

My grandmother herself has carried on this tradition of making quilts, and hers are beautiful patterns with stories of their own.

But none touches me so much as this old winter quilt come from necessity; knotted with yarn and slanted around the border; indifferent to pattern and symmetry; with heaps of stories wrapped up inside.

Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.



MIX OF SIX
Julian Uzielli
london@metronews.ca



Sarah sings

Canadian songstress Sarah Slean is bringing the orchestral half of her double album Land & Sea to Aeolian Hall (795 Dundas St.) on Thursday, February 16. There will be a string quintet along for the ride on this tour, in order to faithfully recreate the arrangements on Sea. Expect a night of beautiful music, covering most of her songs that include strings. Tickets are \$35 at the door or \$30 in advance at aeolianhall.ca.

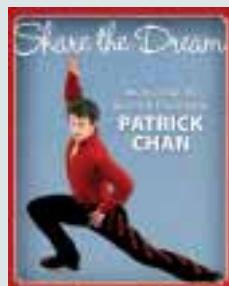
PHOTO COURTESY OF DARIN ADDISON



A night at the Oscars ... almost

The night before the biggest film event of the year, the Learning Disabilities Association of London Region is throwing its own film-themed gala. The annual Night at the Oscars fundraiser event will be held at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre (551 Windermere Rd.) next Saturday, February 23. The evening includes a five-course dinner, live and silent auctions and live music. And best of all: everyone gets a chocolate Oscar statue. Tickets go for \$100 at ldalondon.ca.

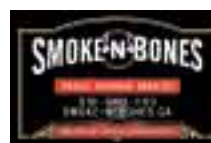
PHOTO COURTESY OF JILL ELLIS



Meet Patrick Chan

In anticipation of the upcoming World Figure Skating Championships to be held in London next month, Canadian figure skater Patrick Chan will be holding a meet-and-greet at White Oaks Mall (1105 Wellington Rd.) at the centre court tomorrow from 1 to 3 p.m. Chan has struck gold at the past two world championships in Russia and France, and will be looking to add a third medal to his collection with home-ice advantage in March.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EMI YOSHIDA



Smoke, Bones 'n' Trivia

Looks like local barbecue joint Smoke 'n' Bones (855 Wellington Rd. S.) is going after the Trivial Pursuit demographic. Starting this week, Monday is Pub Stumpers Trivia night. Featuring 10 rounds of questions on categories including geography, arts & entertainment, and name that tune, the weekly event starts at 7:30 p.m. and is free of charge — not including BBQ and beer, of course. Bring a few friends and have some fun over an authentic Southern meal.

IMAGE COURTESY OF SMOKE 'N' BONES



Second Third Thursday

Museum London's Third Thursday event is back for round two this week, after the success of last month's inaugural art and music soiree. The monthly event, happening February 21, opens the museum after hours and features music, crafts and pop-up bars. Unlike last month's blues theme, the music on Thursday will be of the indie rock variety — headlining the show will be The Cousins, Curious Antler and S.M. Tickets are \$5 at the door, and the doors open at 7 p.m.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAELE PALMER



Grand Yankees

The Grand Theatre (471 Richmond St.) opened its latest production, Yankee Tavern, this week. Ray (Nicholas Campbell) is a regular at the Yankee Tavern bar, where he is well-known for his stories and conspiracy theories. He may seem like a harmless barfly — until his theories start to make a little too much sense. Despite the small cast of four, this thriller will keep you on the edge of your seat. The show runs until March 2. Tickets start at \$25.99 at grandtheatre.com.

IMAGE COURTESY OF JULIE BELL



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MLB Fan Cave

Former Rippers intern one step closer to dream

April Whitzman, who was a public-relations intern for the London Rippers last summer, has moved on to the top 30 stage of the Major League Baseball Fan Cave competition.

Whitzman, 25, was selected from a field of thousands to be part of the top-52 portion of the contest. She was recently voted through to the next round.

All 30 finalists are attending MLB spring training to audition for one of 10 Fan Cave Dwellers spots in New York City. Dwellers can spend up to a year as an interactive reporter/analyst for the MLB. **METRO**

Snowboarding

Lavigne captures World Cup bronze

Canadian snowboarder Ariane Lavigne made her debut on the World Cup podium Thursday.

The native of Mont-Tremblant, Que., dominated both her runs against Valeriya Tsoy of Kazakhstan to capture a bronze medal in the women's parallel giant slalom in Sochi, Russia.

"I knew it could happen," said Lavigne, who had never finished in the top 16 at a World Cup event. "In all the last races I was so close."

The competition is being held on the same course that will be used at the Sochi Olympics a year from now.

Former world champion and Olympic bronze medalist Marion Kreiner of Austria edged Amelie Kober of Germany by four-hundredths of a second to claim her third career World Cup victory.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Knights hope to turn into road warriors

OHL. London will have to get used to living life out of a suitcase as 9 of last 14 games will be played as visitors



JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

It begins on Friday in Erie, Pa., and ends nearly a month later, on March 17 in Sault Ste. Marie.

To close out their 2012-13 regular season, the London Knights will play nine of their 14 games in arenas not named Budweiser Gardens. Aside from a stretch of five games in late February, in which they're away from home once, the team is a slave to the road.

As a player, Knights assistant coach Jeff Paul spent a decade toiling in the minor pro leagues — a place where your suitcase is your best friend. The first-year OHL bench boss says in order to succeed as the visiting squad, a "workman's attitude" must be harnessed.

"Staying disciplined," Paul said, "and, of course, keeping the crowd out of it. They're one and the same a lot of the times, too."

With a three-game losing skid hanging over their heads, a trip south this weekend should pay dividends for London. After all, they have a better winning percentage on the road, having won 19 out of 25 games compared to 20 of 29 at home.

"On the road, I think it's just a matter of playing simple, buying into your systems and getting pucks

What's on tap

FRIDAY

• **At:** Erie Insurance Arena, 7 p.m.

• **Versus:** Erie Otters

• **Record:** 16-31-3-5

• **The hot hand:** Connor Brown (25 goals, 37 assists)

SUNDAY

• **At:** Gatorade Garden City Complex, 2 p.m.

• **Versus:** Niagara IceDogs

• **Record:** 26-25-2-2

• **The hot hand:** Ryan Strome (31 goals, 45 assists)

*Statistics heading into Thursday games
*London plays Erie again on Monday.
The 2 p.m. game is at Budweiser Gardens.



London Knights forward Seth Griffith, left, chats with assistant coach Dylan Hunter during practice at Western Fair Sports Centre on Thursday. Griffith is out until at least the start of March with a broken bone in one of his hands.
JOHN MATISZ/METRO

battle the Niagara IceDogs in their ancient St. Catharines barn on Sunday, it's almost a guarantee Rupert will be front and centre.

On the flip side, London blue-liners will have their hands full with Niagara's NHL-ready duo of Ryan Strome and Brett Ritchie.

"They've got a smaller rink, you can't hide out there. The key to shutting down a guy like Strome, or Ritchie, is to get in their face," Sefton added.

Follow John Matisz on Twitter @Metro_JMatisz



Janssen, Romero step onto comeback trail



Toronto Blue Jays closer Casey Janssen takes part in a drill in Dunedin, Fla., on Thursday. Janssen had shoulder surgery in November following a season in which he saved 22 games for the Jays. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The sun was nowhere to be seen Thursday and eaves-droppers carved puddles into the gravel at rainy Florida Auto Exchange Stadium by early afternoon.

Of course, most Blue Jays players had left by then.

Still, it was a good day's work for pitchers Casey Janssen and Ricky Romero.

Both threw from the practice mound, taking another step in their comeback from off-season surgery.

For rehabbing pitchers, making it to the mound only comes after seemingly endless tossing sessions on level ground.

"It was fun to be on a mound and throwing downhill again,"

Quoted

"I had a bad year and that's all there is to it."

Starting pitcher Ricky Romero, who's not making excuses for his struggles last season

said Janssen, a reliever who had shoulder surgery in November.

"Any time you get a chance to get up on that mound and see a catcher, it feels good," said Romero, a left-handed starter who had his elbow cleaned out in October and had platelet-rich plasma (PRP) injections in both knees.

The 31-year-old Janssen, who took over as closer after Sergio Santos had shoulder sur-

gery in July, converted 22 of 25 save opportunities and finished a fine season with a 1-1 record and 2.54 earned-run average.

He is being monitored closely to ensure he does not come back from surgery too fast. He estimated Thursday he was throwing at 70 to 80 per cent of what he is capable of.

In 2012, Romero raced out to an 8-1 record but eventually tied a franchise record with 13 straight losses. He finished with a 9-14 record and 5.77 ERA in 33 starts.

With the surgery, he had plenty of time in the off-season to ponder a rotten year. Asked how that felt, he replied "Like crap," and laughed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ottawa Senators defenceman Erik Karlsson, right, limps off the ice as a team trainer arrives to help him after he was cut by the blade of Pittsburgh Penguins winger Matt Cooke's skate Wednesday in Pittsburgh.

GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Karlsson's season-ending slice sparks player concerns

Speed vs. safety.

Sens manager says players can be stubborn about equipment despite injury risk

Gruesome cuts like the one that ended Ottawa Senators defenceman Erik Karlsson's season are not new to hockey or any sport played on skates.

But when a Norris Trophy winner goes down after his Achilles tendon is nearly severed in half, it makes players around the NHL wonder if they should start wearing cut-proof socks and other equipment that may prevent such scary injuries.

The Karlsson injury was the talk of the league Thursday after Karlsson's left Achilles tendon was cut by a skate blade during a game against the Pittsburgh Penguins on

Wednesday night.

Senators general manager Bryan Murray said 70 per cent of Karlsson's tendon was cut as a result of the incident. The defenceman underwent surgery Thursday and recovery is expected to be at least three to four months, thus ending his season.

Many players are already wearing cut-proof Kevlar socks, but a lot have either never tried them or don't like them.

"It's a tough call," said Karlsson's defence partner Marc Methot. "Most of us have never even tried them on before."

"It certainly raises awareness now. I'm going to try them out."

Murray lamented some players' stubbornness about their equipment, even if it may prevent an injury.

"We have skate guards that defencemen should be wearing and I look around and not many defencemen are wear-

Cutting ice time

Several high-profile NHL players have missed significant time due to skate cuts.

- Defencemen Kevin Bieksa of the Vancouver Canucks and Andrei Markov of the Montreal Canadiens both have had their legs sliced open by skates in recent seasons.
- Anaheim Ducks scoring star Teemu Selanne has had two major cuts in his career and now wears Kevlar socks and wrist guards.

ing them," he said. "Players want to be able to play at a high speed and they think that some of this stuff is cumbersome so they take the risk of not wearing it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LONDON TRANSIT NEWS

Family Day, February 18, 2013

Buses will operate on a Sunday schedule on Monday, February 18, 2013 in observance of Family Day.

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Murder charges come as 'a shock': Paralympic CEO

Oscar Pistorius.
Double-amputee sprinter heralded for bringing Paralympic Games to the forefront

The London Paralympics were the most successful Games to date, with millions of people buying tickets to events, and Oscar Pistorius was a big part of that.

On Thursday, the South African athlete who became the poster boy for Paralympic sport was charged with murder in the shooting death of his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp.

"It was a shock for us," said Xavier Gonzalez, CEO of the International Paralympic committee.

"Right now, the most important thing is to send our deepest condolences to the families affected by this tragedy," said Gonzalez, who is

in Toronto observing preparations for the Parapan Am Games that will be held there in 2015.

Pistorius, who had his lower legs amputated before he was a year old, won two gold medals and a silver at last year's Paralympic Games in London. But what drew even more attention is that this 26-year-old made sporting history by becoming the first double-amputee sprinter to compete in the Olympics. He reached the 400-metre semifinal and competed in the 4x400 metre relay.

"We'll need to wait to see how the police investigation goes," said Gonzalez. But he emphasizes that, to date, "Os-

car has been a fantastic ambassador for our movement.

"He created momentum that, in some way, contributed to what happened in London."

The London Paralympics sold 2.7 million tickets making it the third largest sporting event in the world after the Olympics and World Cup soccer, he said. Beyond the spectators, the Games drew far more media coverage, particularly in Europe, and corporate sponsorship than previous events.

A Nike ad, featuring Pistorius in his green race suit and the tagline — "I am the bullet in the chamber. Just do it" — was removed from his personal website. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Quoted

The news out of South Africa "is not good for the Paralympics or sport in general. Oscar has become a hero ... He's our Tiger Woods."

Martin Richard, head of communications at the Canadian Paralympic Committee

Olympics

Decision on NHLers in Sochi won't come this week

A decision on whether NHL players will head to the 2014 Sochi Olympics isn't likely this week.

Discussions were set for Thursday and Friday between the NHL, the NHL players' association, and officials from the International Ice Hockey Federation and the International Olympic Committee to see if it makes sense for North American professional hockey players to go to the Olympics for a fifth straight time.

"I don't expect any resolution or decisions this week," NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly told The Associated Press in an email on Thursday.

The Sochi Games are one year away. While a final decision isn't required this week, one will have to be reached in the near future. It is believed hockey federations will need to know by May what players will be available for their teams.

The NHL have been sending its players to the Olympics since 1998 Winter Games. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

NASCAR. Romance between drivers takes centre stage on media day

Brad Keselowski strolled through the Daytona 500 Club with his cellphone in one hand and a half-empty bottle in the other.

Nope, not beer. Not this time.

Keselowski was drinking orange juice Thursday at Daytona 500 Media Day, which officially kicked off Speedweeks. Still, the reigning NASCAR Sprint Cup champion was his usual, laid-back, outspoken self, offering up some of the best one-liners during a daylong event filled with playful jokes, repetitive questions, canned answers and optimistic outlooks for the upcoming season.

For Keselowski, it wasn't all that different from his last moment in the spotlight. He just didn't have a little buzz going.

"If you drink enough orange juice, you can drink a lot of beer," said Keselowski, who memorably chugged away in Victory Lane after clinching his first Cup championship at Homestead-Miami Speedway in November.

Three months later, he was fielding questions about defending his title, tweeting from his race car — which he fam-



Danica Patrick
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ously did during last year's Daytona 500 — and the budding relationship between competitors Danica Patrick and Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

No surprise, the 50-plus drivers were asked a number of questions about the Patrick and Stenhouse saga — they announced they were dating last month.

"In some respects, it's just a relationship," five-time champion Jimmie Johnson said.

"It will keep people looking and watching and curious as to what that dynamic is on the track, I'm sure ... We'll all be watching with great curiosity."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You will have to make sacrifices in one area if you want to make progress in another. At work, try to get important people on your side because no matter how talented you happen to be, you can't do it all alone.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Whatever your plans, whatever your schedules, whatever your deadlines, it is essential that you take life at a slower, calmer pace today. Everything you need will come to you if you let it. Sit back and let it happen.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You may not feel brave on the inside but try to look brave on the outside. Self-confidence is the key to success now and if you can convince people you've got it you'll get what it is you desire.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You may have to rely on partners and colleagues a bit more than usual over the next 24 hours. That means revealing information you might prefer to keep to yourself. Make sure you confide only in those you trust.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You cannot possibly be the best at everything — no, really! And the sooner you stop trying, the better. You will achieve more over the next few days if you stick to the two or three things you are exceptionally good at.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You need to get serious about something of a creative or artistic nature. You may think you are serious about it already but deep down you know you have been holding back. As from today, you must give it your all.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You don't have to suffer in silence if someone has cheated you in some way. Shout out loud about it. Kick up a fuss. If you don't make an issue of it now they will take advantage of you again later on.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Let others have their say first then, when they have finished, point out the flaws in their argument. You may not win many friends but you will make it clear you are not going to be taken in so easily.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Saturn's influence demands that you start thinking seriously about ways to make ends meet and make your money go further. In a nutshell, you must spend less or earn more. Ideally, of course, you need to do both.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Strive to make a positive impression on people in positions of authority. The more you can show them that you are on top of your game, the more likely it is they will turn to you when there is a promotion on offer.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You seem to be struggling with some serious questions about your place in the world. You certainly have not found the right answers yet. Don't worry, it's only a matter of time before it all clicks into place.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

People are looking to you to take a lead and you must not let them down. Today's Mars-Pluto link will endow you with loads of energy and no end of self-confidence. You'll need them for the tasks ahead.

SALLY BROMPTON

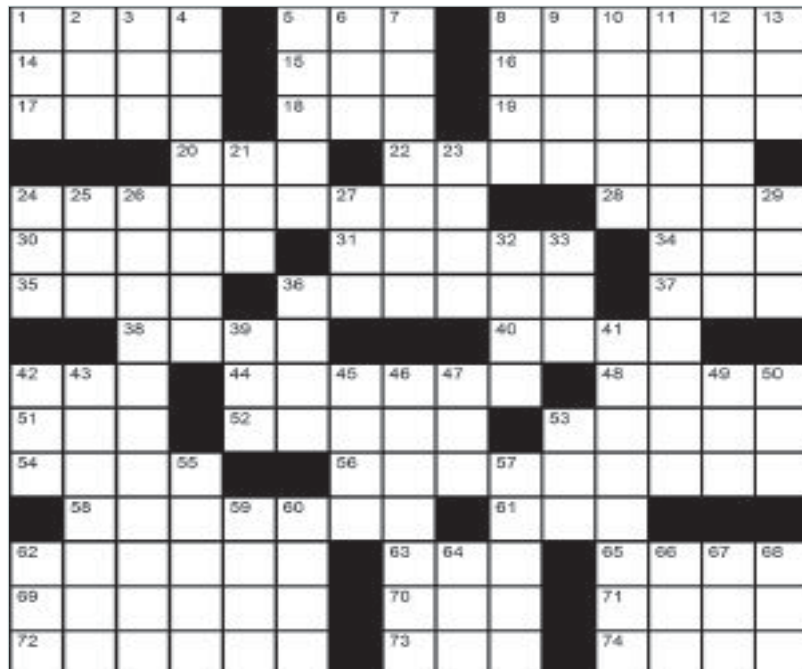
Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

1. National ___ of Canada Day
5. Prefix to 'metrical'
8. Takes on the role of: 2 wds.
14. Copy of an orig.
15. My own, in Latin
16. "Wow!", in Australia
17. Abominable snowman
18. Grass appendage
19. The Grand ___
20. Prefix to 'lead'
22. Marc ___, painter of I and the Village (1911, oil on canvas)
24. "Rise Up" by The ___ Club
28. Earth
30. Anoint, archaically
31. Lathers
34. Dundee denial
35. ___ poker
36. Baseball great Mickey
37. Explosive letters
38. Sporty brand
40. Mil. stockpile
42. UK record label
44. Deceive
48. One who must pay
51. Philosopher, ___-tzu
52. Drive, do this
53. Two down, ___ go
54. Mailed a letter
56. Phar Lap, for one
58. Creeks
61. Roadie's haul
62. Make ___ (Reception tradition)
63. Meditation sounds
65. Receptive
69. Self-evident fact
70. 'The Science Guy', Bill ___
71. Former currency in Italy
72. Mr. Safer, Canadian correspondent on "60 Minutes"
73. Mr. Mineo
74. Wool

Down

1. Use a pan
2. Kathie Gifford link
3. Inclined
4. House of ___ (Monaco's royal family)
5. NBC series starring "American Idol" alum Katharine McPhee
6. Archery bow wood
7. New Brunswick city
8. Medieval silk and gold fabric
9. Rugged cliff
10. Singer Ms. Turner's
11. Niagara Falls lookout structure: 2 wds.
12. ___ harp (It sounds in the wind)
13. Equivalent word [abbr.]
21. Arctic ___ cap
23. Warmth
24. Not: French



family)

5. NBC series starring "American Idol" alum Katharine McPhee
6. Archery bow wood
7. New Brunswick city
8. Medieval silk and gold fabric
9. Rugged cliff
10. Singer Ms. Turner's
11. Niagara Falls lookout structure: 2 wds.
12. ___ harp (It sounds in the wind)
13. Equivalent word [abbr.]
21. Arctic ___ cap
23. Warmth
24. Not: French

25. Social bug
26. Classic rock band's venture, perhaps: 2 wds.
27. Can. neighbor
29. Allow
32. Theatrical work
33. Theological sch.
36. Convene
39. "Footloose" (1984) star ...his initials-sharers
41. Classic board game
42. Pro golfer Ernie
43. "Let Your Backbone Slide" by ___ Fresh-Wes
45. Condition

46. Causes
47. Rainbow shape
49. Aliens, for short
50. Caviar
53. Electrical resistance unit
55. Hiker's snack, ___ mix
57. Painter's stand
59. Being, in Latin
60. 1996 to 2001 Canadian series, "Wind ___ Back"
62. Cash dispenser, commonly
64. "Lady Marmalade" co-singer
66. 1980s starlet Ms. Zadora
67. "To ___ is human..."
68. Book publisher, ___ A. Talese

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Today

-3°/-13°

Flurries

40%

Saturday

-7°/-13°

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The "Red Neck" Corner

Red Neck Photo of the Week



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Red Neck Joke
of the Week

You are a red
neck if...

You need a
dictionary to spell
your name

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J X N H N F R J O P C T Q A
A A E M N A E B S C I Q A C
O F K J U M W D A W S M U A
E Q E M B I O H E I E B H T
T M E Y R L L B S E L I D I
A S W A E Y F E G K D C S O
L S G W T T F A N O D J P N
O S N A S C Q C I N U N J D
C A O T A L Q H P Y P M F S
O R L E E W A R M Z G M G H
H G B G R E L I A R T G G X
C X M M B I I D C Z E S W O
R S G N I R P S I R A I N K
T W A H T F L I D O F F A D

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Camping Season
Chocolate
Daffodil
Easter Bunny
Eggs
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Flowers
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